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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:CASC, (FRONCZAK, SANDRA)

SUBJECT:W/W SANDRA FRONCZAK

REF: A. MEXICO 11323; B. MEXICO 11085; D. MEXICO 11270

1. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RECENT CONTACTS MADE WITH DEPART MENT ON BEHALF OF FRONCZAK FAMILY. BILL LAWBAUGH, IRON WORKERS UNION REPRESENTATIVE, REQUESTED INFORMATION O LATEST CASE EVENTS AND INTEREST TAKEN BY MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ON SEPTEMBER 9 HE WAS GIVEN INFORMATION FROM MEXICO 11323 THAT IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION RAISED EARLER, AN AVERAGE OF 2 OR 3 REQUESTS EACH WEEK FOR ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING A MISSING PERSON WERE RECEIVED IN MEXICO. ALSO HE WAS PROVIDED, FROM MEXICO 11085, WITH PARAGRAPH FROM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S SPEECH REFERRING TO FRONCZAK-SEMELROTH CASE. FURTHER, LAWBAUGH WAS INFORMED THAT INQUIRY WOULD CONTINUE ON WHETHER REQUESTED CONFESSION COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HIM. FYI: SINCE IT IS STILL PROBLEMATICAL, PER MEXICO 11323, WHETHER AUTHORITIES WOULD PROVIDE CONFESSION EVEN FO FAMILY KNOWING POSSIBLE USE TO BE MADE OF IT, IT WOULD BE WISE TO DETERMINE DEFINITELY ITS AVAILABILITY BEFORE UNCLASSIFIED

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INFORMING LAWBAUGH OF ANY PROGRESS IN ITS ACQUISITION.

- 2. LAWBAUGH ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF "EXACT DATE" ON WHIC SEARCH FOR SANDRA FRONCZAK WAS "CALLED OFF." PRESUMABLY ACTIVE ASPECTS OF SEARCH CEASED GRADUALLY AS EACH LEAD WAS EXHAUSTED AND NEW ONES FAILED TO MATERIALIZE, AND HE WAS INFORMED NO SPECIFIC DATE WAS AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT. SHORTLY AFTER CONVERSATION WITH LAWBAUGH, DEPARTMENT RE-CEIVED CALL FROM JIM PLATT OF JACK ANDERSON'S OFFICE, PURSUING SAME OUESTION. WHITE HOUSE NSC ALSO REPORTS CALL FROM BILL WILSON, FRONCZAK'S LAWYER, THIS TIME PURSUING ISSUE OF "DATE ON WHICH SEARCH FOR CIVILIAN ACCOMPLICES WAS CALLED OFF." APPARANTLY ANOTHER CORRESPONDENCE CAM-PAIGN IS ALSO BEGINNING DIRECTED TO CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES COMPLAINING THAT THE "SEARCH HAS BEEN CALLED OFF." DEPARTMENT FEELS CERTAIN ALL PARTIES ARE AWARE THAT EVEN IF ACTIVE SEARCHES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED, LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE FULLY RESPONSIVE TO ANY REASONABLE NEW LEADS THAT MAY ARISE. WE NEVERTHELESS FORESEE ISSUES OF "CALLED-OFF SEARCH" AND "EXACT DATE" BECOMING PERSISTENT.
- 3. REQUEST POST THEREFORE ATTEMPT OBTAIN CURRENT STATUS OF "SEARCH" ON MRS. FRONCZAK AND CIVILIANS, PERHAPS WITH REFERENCE TO CIRCULATION OF PHOTOS AND OFFER OF REWARD, MENTIONED IN MEXICO 11270. FURTHER IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF POST COULD DETERMINE DATES, IF AVAILABLE, WHEN VARIOUS MAJOR ACTIVE UNDERTAKINGS ENDED, I.E. SEARCH OF SWAMP FOR BODY, ETC.
- 4. ALSO, FOR PRESS INQUIRIES NOW BEING RECEIVED, REQUEST POST ATTEMPT ARRIVE AT ESTIMATE OF "MISSING PERSONS" CASE ENCOUNTERED THROUGHOUT MEXICO, NOT ONLY BY EMBASSY AS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED. ANY FURTHER COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL FOR GENERAL PRESS GUIDANCE. HABIB

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